

U.S. Department of Labor

OCT 13 2004

Assistant Secretary for
Employment and Training
Washington, D.C. 20210



The Honorable Bob Taft
Governor of Ohio
77 South High Street
30th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6117

Dear Governor Taft:

It is with pleasure that I respond to the State of Ohio's request for an extension of a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) waiver of the time limit on the period of initial eligibility of training providers at 20 CFR 663.530. This action is taken under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, subtitles B and E and Sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act.


The State of Ohio was granted a waiver to extend the period of initial eligibility of training providers on July 19, 2002. In its current submission, the state reports that during the waiver period the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, the state's workforce development agency, worked closely with the Ohio Board of Regents, the state's coordinating board for higher education, on procedures for collecting required performance data from training providers. However, the state indicates that a focus on implementation of a new reporting system hampered efforts to complete its work on these procedures, and delayed the state in requesting an extension of the waiver, which expired on January 1, 2004. The state is now seeking a waiver extension to complete development and implementation of the subsequent eligibility procedures.

The waiver is written in the format identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c) and appears to meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). Accordingly, the State of Ohio is granted an extension of this waiver with an effective date of January 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005.

The granted waiver extension is incorporated by reference into the state's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and also constitutes a modification of the state's approved five-year strategic plan. A copy of this letter should be filed with the state's WIA Grant Agreement and the state's approved five-year strategic plan, as appropriate.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce investment outcomes. We are prepared to entertain other state and local-level waiver requests that you may wish to submit, consistent with the provisions of the WIA statute and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Stover DeRocco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Emily" being the most prominent.

Emily Stover DeRocco

Enclosure